

What is claimed is:

1 1. A computer-readable medium comprising:
2 computer-readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to search for
3 sensitive information;

4 computer-readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to obtain a
5 result of the search; and

6 computer-readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to assign a
7 score to the obtained result, the score be assigned in accordance with a predefined
8 criterion.

1 2. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, further comprising computer-
2 readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to search for items of
3 information associated with an individual.

1 3. The computer-readable medium of claim 2, further comprising computer-
2 readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to assign an individual score for
3 each of the items of information.

1 4. The computer-readable medium of claim 3, further comprising computer-
2 readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to assign a combinatorial score
3 to the sensitive information, the combinatorial score being a function of the score for at
4 least two of the items of information.

1 5. The computer-readable medium of claim 1, further comprising:
2 computer-readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to search for a
3 first item of information; and
4 computer-readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to search for a
5 second item of information.

1 6. The computer-readable medium of claim 5, further comprising:
2 computer-readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to assign a
3 first individual score to the first item of information; and
4 computer-readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to assign a
5 second individual score to the second item of information.

1 7. The computer-readable medium of claim 6, further comprising computer-
2 readable code adapted to instruct a programmable device to assign a third score to the
3 sensitive information, the third score being a function of the first score and the second
4 score.

1 8. A method comprising the steps of:
2 searching for sensitive information;
3 obtaining a result of the search; and
4 assigning a score to the obtained result, the score being assigned in accordance
5 with a predefined criterion.

1 9. The method of claim 8, wherein the step of searching for sensitive
2 information comprises the step of searching for items of information associated with an
3 individual.

1 10. The method of claim 9, wherein the step of assigning a score comprises the
2 step of assigning an individual score for each of the items of information.

1 11. The method of claim 10, wherein the step of assigning a score further
2 comprises the step of assigning a combinatorial score to the personal information, the
3 combinatorial score being a function of the score for at least two of the items of
4 information.

1 12. The method of claim 8, wherein the step of searching for sensitive
2 information comprises the steps of:
3 searching for a first item of information; and
4 searching for a second item of information.

1 13. The method of claim 12, wherein the step of assigning a score comprises
2 the steps of:
3 assigning a first score to the first item of information; and
4 assigning a second score to the second item of information.

1 14. The method of claim 13, wherein the step of assigning a score comprises
2 the step of assigning a third score to the personal information, the third score being a
3 function of the first score and the second score.

1 15. A system comprising:
2 means for searching for sensitive information;
3 means for obtaining a result of the search; and
4 means for assigning a score to the obtained result, the score being assigned in
5 accordance with a predefined criterion.

1 16. The system of claim 15, further comprising means for searching for items
2 of information associated with an individual.

1 17. The system of claim 16, further comprising means for assigning an
2 individual score for each of the items of information.

1 18. The system of claim 17, further comprising means for assigning a
2 combinatorial score to the personal information, the combinatorial score being a function
3 of the score for at least two of the items of information.

1 19. The system of claim 15, further comprising:
2 means for searching for a first item of information; and
3 means for searching for a second item of information.

- 1 20. The system of claim 19, further comprising:
 - 2 means for assigning a first score to the first item of information;
 - 3 means for assigning a second score to the second item of information; and
 - 4 means for assigning a third score to the sensitive information, the third score being
 - 5 a function of the first score and the second score.